

REMARKS

Claims 24-39 are pending in the application. Claims 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, and 34 have been amended. Claim 24 has been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

Claims 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 35 and 37 are independent.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that Claims 34 through 38 have been renumbered as Claims 35-39 due to the application having two claims numbered 34. This amendment is acceptable to the Applicant

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 24-39 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-7 of U.S. Patent No. 6,629,972. Applicant herein files a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

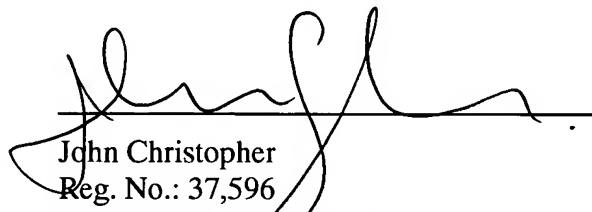
On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 24 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Grace, U.S. Patent No. 5,651,781. As an initial matter, Claims 25, 26, 28, 32 and 38 which depend directly from Claim 24 have not been rejected under §102(e), and they have been amended to place them in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim from which they depend (Claim 24). Claim 24 has been cancelled. Claim 34 has been amended to depend from Claim 25. Accordingly, this basis of rejection is believed to be overcome.

For all of the above reasons, the claim rejections are believed to have been overcome placing Claims 25-39 in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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